

The Liberal Democrat.

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EDITORS IN LIBERAL.

Members of The Fraternity Meet to Organize.

A number of the editors in this section met in Liberal last Tuesday to organize an editorial association. The call was issued last week, and owing to various troubles, several editors were unable to come. The meeting was held in the club room at nine o'clock Tuesday morning. After a few minutes discussion of the various problems of the business, the meeting was called to order. Besides the editors of the local newspapers, Editor Harvey of the Bucklin Banner, Editor Miller of the Meade News, Editor McConnell of the Plains Journal, Editor Anderson of the Hugoton Hermes, and Editor Stanton of the Fowler Gazette were in attendance.

Editor Millman was elected President, Editor Zimmerman of Guymon, First Vice-President, Editor Stanton Second Vice-Pres., Editor Harvey Secretary, and Editor Miller Treasurer.

The organization will be perfected at the next meeting which will be held in Bucklin during the first week of April.

Following the election of officers the meeting adjourned, and the visitors taken for an automobile ride around town. Their expressions of surprise at the progress Liberal is making were too numerous to permit quotation. They were all immensely pleased with the town, and seemed to be greatly surprised at the amount of new building now going on. An effort was made to secure the next meeting for Liberal, but a compromise with the eastern delegation seemed

diplomatic, so Bucklin was unanimously voted as the place of the next meeting. It is probable that the second meeting, which will be held next fall will be in Liberal. The meeting here was a decided success, and will be a good thing for Liberal, as it advertises Liberal with the best boosters in the Southwest—the newspaper men.

C. O. Wilson, who is President of the Penn. Drilling and Construction Co., was here last Saturday inspecting the new well at the Rock Island which one of his outfits has just completed. He owns a number of different drilling outfits in the U. S. and has the largest concern of its kind in the country. He is also deeply interested in the opening up of the southwest, and wants to see a deep well proposition launched here at Liberal. He has offered to do the work at the rock bottom price, and in addition to donate \$500.00 to the enterprise. This looks good, and coming from an experienced man in the drilling business should not be lightly overlooked. The outfit which was used in drilling the Rock Island well here was taken to Kismet.

The first of the week, work was commenced on the ballasting of 50 miles of track west of Liberal. The steam shovel will first go in at Optima hill, and the first gangs of men will be located at Guymon. As the season opens up, the work will be pushed along with seven work trains and about 250 men.

President Waters of the Kansas Agricultural College says farmers who sell their hogs and buy meat of the packing houses are paying 50 per cent more for their meat than in would cost them if they cured it themselves.

State Broom Factory.

We received a letter from Rep. Wilson of Greely county the first of the week, asking us to circulate a petition for installing a broomcorn plant at the state reformatory at Hutchinson. He claims for the bill that it will decrease the price of finished brooms, and increase the price of broomcorn. The matter was discussed at the meeting of the Commercial Club Tuesday night, and the majority there thought that Liberal would eventually get a broom factory, and that the existence of such a plant at Hutchinson, using penal labor would be a serious handicap to a plant here, because it would cut off a valuable territory on the east, and make us compete with prison labor. We have talked the matter over with a number of men, and prepared the petitions so that all who might sign could. There is some doubt in our minds as to whether or not it would be a good thing for Liberal, but we believe in doing everything we can for the broomcorn market, and if this will help even a little, we are willing to do all we can for it.

The farmers meeting here last week was quite a success, and there were about 50 farmers at both the meetings and at the stock judging which was conducted by Prof. Wheeler of the K. S. A. C. A number of good papers were read and some good thoughts were presented. It was very unfortunate that more did not take the opportunity to attend the meeting. It is becoming more evident every day that we must get together and work for the best interests of our various lines of business. When competitors get together to talk over their business, it should be enough to convince the most dubious that co-operation is essential.

They Vote It Down.

At a fairly well attended meeting of the Commercial Club here last Tuesday night, the proposition of offering a site to the state for a tuberculosis hospital here was voted down. Rep. Wheeler had written Dr. Smith the first of the week asking him to put the proposition of the state institution for consumptives before the club, and asked them to give a site for the hospital if it should be located here.

Several of those present were in favor of having the hospital located here, but the majority were too much interested in the town to have it advertised as a resort for consumptives. It was also suggested that the hospital would bring many here who would not be able to enter the hospital, and throw them on the town.

It might also be mentioned in passing that the legislator from this county was elected on a platform of getting a normal school and an agricultural experimental station for Liberal. Now these promises materialize in the form of a tuberculosis hospital, and Liberal has shown that she isn't going to take just any old bug house the state might locate here.

A fellow got off the train here Monday and walked down the platform in front of the new hotel and depot. After taking a survey of the improvements being made here by the railroad, he said, "Well, it sure looks as though the Rock Island had Liberal spotted for a winner."

Plans are being gradually perfected for an organization of the business men of the town. It seems that there will be plenty to keep the new organization busy from the day it is launched.

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